

FEB 28 2007

Atty. Dkt. No. SALK1740-10  
(088802-3218)Amendments to the Claims/Listing of Claims

Please amend claims 1 and 11 as follows and cancel claims 3, 4, 15-18, and 20 without prejudice. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An isolated mammalian G protein-coupled corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF) receptor protein,

wherein said protein is encoded by DNA that hybridizes ~~under low stringency conditions~~ to the complement of polynucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:14 under moderately stringent conditions, comprising hybridization in 50% formamide, 5X Denhart's solution, 5X SSPE, 0.2% SDS at 42 °C, followed by washing in 0.2X SSPE, 0.2% SDS, at 65 °C, so as to allow identification of sequences having at least [[50%]] 70% nucleic acid identity with respect to SEQ ID NO:14;

wherein said receptor protein binds CRF; and

wherein said protein is at least about 70% pure (by weight of total proteins).

2. (Original) The isolated protein according to claim 1 having sufficient binding affinity for CRF such that concentrations of less than or equal to 10 nanomolar CRF occupy greater than or equal to 50% of the binding sites of said receptor protein.

Claims 3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) The isolated protein according to claim 1, wherein said protein is encoded by DNA having at least 80% nucleic acid identity with respect to SEQ ID NO:14.

Atty. Dkt. No. SALK1740-10  
(088802-3218)

6. (Previously presented) The isolated protein according to claim 1, wherein said protein is encoded by DNA having at least 90% nucleic acid identity with respect to SEQ ID NO:14.

7. (Previously presented) The isolated protein according to claim 1 having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:15.

8. (Original) The isolated protein according to claim 1 having a radioactive labelling element attached thereto.

9. (Original) The isolated protein according to claim 1, wherein said isolated protein is a recombinant protein.

10. (Original) A composition comprising an isolated protein according to claim 1.

11. (Currently amended) An antigenic fragment of an isolated mammalian G protein-coupled corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF) receptor protein;

wherein said protein is encoded by DNA that hybridizes under low stringency conditions to the complement of polynucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:14 under moderately stringent conditions, comprising hybridization in 50% formamide, 5X Denhart's solution, 5X SSPE, 0.2% SDS at 42 °C, followed by washing in 0.2X SSPE, 0.2% SDS, at 65 °C, so as to allow identification of sequences having at least [50%] 70% nucleic acid identity with respect to SEQ ID NO:14;

wherein said receptor protein binds CRF; and

wherein said protein antigenic fragment is at least about 70% pure (by weight of total proteins).

Claim 12. (Cancelled)

Atty. Dkt. No. SALK1740-10  
(088802-3218)

13. (Previously presented) A substantially pure polypeptide comprising at least 15 contiguous amino acids of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:15; wherein said polypeptide is at least about 70% pure (by weight of total proteins).

14. (Original) The polypeptide according to claim 13, wherein a residue selected from the group consisting of tyrosine, cysteine, lysine, glutamic acid and aspartic acid has been attached by a peptide bond to the carboxyl terminus of said polypeptide.

Claims 15-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) A diagnostic kit for assaying for the presence in biological fluids of CRF-R protein, CRF-R protein analogs, and/or CRF-R fragments, said kit comprising:

(a) an isolated mammalian G protein-coupled corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF) receptor protein according to claim 1, and/or  
(b) one or more antibodies generated against said protein or immunologic fragment thereof.

Claim 20. (Cancelled)